

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-23 canceled.

24. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) an amino acid sequence comprising residues +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) an amino acid sequence comprising residues +2 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (c) an amino acid sequence comprising residues +23 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2.

25. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 24 which comprises amino acid sequence (a).

26. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 24 which comprises amino acid sequence (b).

27. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 24 which comprises amino acid sequence (c).

28. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 24 wherein said amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

29. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 28 wherein said heterologous polypeptide sequence is that of the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

30. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 24 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

(b) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641; and

(c) an amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

32. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 31 which comprises amino acid sequence (a).

33. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 31 which comprises amino acid sequence (b).

34. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 31 which comprises amino acid sequence (c).

35. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 31 wherein said amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

36. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 35 wherein said heterologous polypeptide sequence is that of the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

37. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 31 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

38. (previously presented) An isolated heterodimer comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 24.

39. (previously presented) An isolated heterodimer comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 31.

40. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) amino acid residues m to 371 of SEQ ID NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of +1 to +370;

(b) amino acid residues 1 to n of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of +2 to +371; and

(c) amino acid residues m to n of SEQ ID NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of +1 to +370 and n is an integer in the range of +2 to 371,

wherein said amino acid sequence consists of at least seven contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

41. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 40, which consists of amino acid sequence (a).

42. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 40, which consists of amino acid sequence (b).

43. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 40, which consists of amino acid sequence (c).

44. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 40 wherein said amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

45. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 44 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

46. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 40 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

47. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 42, wherein said amino acid sequence consists of amino acid residues +1 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2.

48. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 43, wherein said amino acid sequence consists of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues +23 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acid residues +23 to +225 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (c) amino acid residues +226 to +260 of SEQ ID NO:2.

49. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues +22 to +29 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acid residues +48 to +56 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) amino acid residues +62 to +73 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (d) amino acid residues +78 to +85 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (e) amino acid residues +88 to +95 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (f) amino acid residues +99 to +105 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (g) amino acid residues +118 to +126 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (h) amino acid residues +139 to +146 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (i) amino acid residues +151 to +169 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (j) amino acid residues +188 to +206 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (k) amino acid residues +208 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (l) amino acid residues +264 to +271 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (m) amino acid residues +286 to +293 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (n) amino acid residues +300 to +313 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (o) amino acid residues +317 to +342 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (p) amino acid residues +347 to +353 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (q) amino acid residues +363 to +369 of SEQ ID NO:2,

wherein the polypeptide consisting of said amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

50. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

51. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

52. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50, consisting of at least 50 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

53. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51, consisting of at least 50 contiguous amino acid residues encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

54. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50 wherein said polypeptide inhibits the differentiation and/or proliferation of immune cells.

55. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50 wherein said polypeptide ~~transduces~~ stimulates immune cell proliferation upon ligand binding.

56. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50 wherein said polypeptide ~~transduces~~ stimulates hematopoietic cell proliferation upon ligand binding.

57. (canceled)

58. (canceled)

59. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51 wherein said polypeptide inhibits the differentiation and/or proliferation of immune cells.

60. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51 wherein said polypeptide ~~transduces~~ stimulates immune cell proliferation upon ligand binding.

61. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51 wherein said polypeptide ~~transduces~~ stimulates hematopoietic cell proliferation upon ligand binding.

62. (canceled)

63. (canceled)

64. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acids +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acids +2 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) amino acids +23 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (d) amino acids +23 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein the isolated polypeptide comprising said first amino acid sequence ~~transduces~~ stimulates immune cell proliferation upon ligand binding.

65. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% identical to said second amino acid sequence (a).

66. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% identical to said second amino acid sequence (b).

67. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% identical to said second amino acid sequence (c).

68. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% identical to said second amino acid sequence (d).

69. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% identical to said second amino acid sequence (a).

70. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% identical to said second amino acid sequence (b).

71. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% identical to said second amino acid sequence (c).

72. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% identical to said second amino acid sequence (d).

73. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 64 wherein said first amino acid sequence further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

74. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 73 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

75. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 64 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

76. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

(b) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641; and

(c) an amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

wherein the polypeptide comprising said first amino acid sequence ~~transduces~~ stimulates immune cell proliferation upon ligand binding.

77. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 76 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% identical to said second amino acid sequence (a).

78. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 76 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% identical to said second amino acid sequence (b).

79. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 76 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 90% identical to said second amino acid sequence (c).

80. (canceled)

81. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 76 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% identical to said second amino acid sequence (a).

82. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 76 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% identical to said second amino acid sequence (b).

83. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 76 wherein said first amino acid sequence is 95% identical to said second amino acid sequence (c).

84. (canceled)

85. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 76 wherein said polypeptide further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

86. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 85 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

87. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 76 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

88. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide which hybridizes to the complement of the polynucleotide set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 wherein said hybridization occurs under conditions comprising hybridization in a buffer consisting essentially of 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5X Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 ug/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA at 42°C and wash in a solution consisting of 0.1X SSC at 65°C[[.]] , and wherein said polypeptide exhibits any one of the following activities:

(a) stimulates the proliferation and/or differentiation of immune cells upon ligand binding

(b) binds an antibody specific for a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

89. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 88 which ~~transduces~~ stimulates the proliferation and/or differentiation of immune cells upon ligand binding.

90. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 88 which binds an antibody specific for a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

91. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 88 comprising a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

92. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 91 wherein said heterologous polypeptide sequence is that of the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

93. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 88 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

94. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide which hybridizes to the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641 wherein said hybridization occurs under conditions comprising hybridization in a buffer consisting essentially of 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5X Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 ug/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA at 42°C, and wash in a solution consisting of 0.1X SSC at 65°C[[.]], and wherein said polypeptide exhibits any one of the following activities:

(a) stimulates the proliferation and/or differentiation of immune cells upon ligand binding

(b) binds an antibody specific for a polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

95. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 94 which ~~transduces~~ stimulates the differentiation and/or proliferation of immune cells upon ligand binding.

96. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 94 which binds an antibody specific for a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

97. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 94 comprising a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

98. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 97 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

99. (previously presented) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 94 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

100. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence, wherein, except for one to 30 amino acid substitutions, said amino acid sequence is identical to contiguous amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acids residues +2 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) amino acids residues +23 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (d) amino acids residues +23 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein said isolated polypeptide ~~transduces~~ stimulates immune cell proliferation upon ligand binding.

101. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence, wherein, except for one to 30 amino acid substitutions, said amino acid sequence is identical to contiguous amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;
- (b) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

(c) an amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

(d) an amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641; and

(e) an amino acid sequence of the soluble extracellular domain of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

wherein said isolated polypeptide ~~transduces~~ stimulates immune cell proliferation upon ligand binding.

102. (currently amended) An isolated protein comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

~~(a) a polypeptide consisting of amino acid residues +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2, in which 1 or more amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added, in any combination and wherein said polypeptide transduces immune cell proliferation;~~

~~(b a)~~ a polypeptide consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 which fragment transduces stimulates immune cell proliferation upon ligand binding; and

(e b) a polypeptide consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 which fragment inhibits immune cell proliferation.

103. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide having immune cell growth-inhibitory activity comprising residues 1 to n of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of +2 to +371, and wherein said polypeptide comprises at least seven contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

104. (previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence of the soluble extracellular domain of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641, wherein the polypeptide comprising said first amino acid sequence acts to inhibit immune cell proliferation.